

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 912

By Bowers

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend John Ware, Principal of Mitchell High School in Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly recognize that there can be no greater influence on a child than that of a good teacher; and

WHEREAS, time spent in the classroom is an investment that will reap great dividends not only for the present, but for future generations as well; and

WHEREAS, John Ware has generously shared his skills, compassion, and enthusiasm with the many valued students of Mitchell High School as their Principal; under his tireless leadership, students are encouraged to commit themselves to excellence, academic mastery, and high expectations; and

WHEREAS, by personal example, John Ware has set a highly visible standard of citizenship for his students, earning the great respect and admiration of Mitchell High School's students, faculty, staff, and parents; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Mitchell High School community have many reasons to take pride in their school: Mitchell High was named the M.E.A./Horace Mann 2003 High School of the Year and received the 2003 and 2004 Trailblazer of the Year Awards for Principal of the Year and for Seventh Grade Team of the Year; Mitchell has also had several of its teachers recognized for their superior work, including a 2003 RATE Recipient, the New Leaders for New Schools Award, and the M.E.A. Favorite Teacher Award; the school was awarded a \$300,000 Comprehensive School Reform Grant; Mitchell High proudly applauds its award-winning band, majorettes, and flag girls, representation in the 2004 West Tennessee Chorus, ROTC Honors Battalion, and local, district, and state honors in all sports; additionally, many Mitchell High School students participate in summer college preparatory programs; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell High School boasts an enrollment of 1,013 students and promotion rates of 84.8 percent with an average class size of twenty-five; moreover, fully 51 percent of the faculty have Master's or Doctoral degrees, with one-hundred percent having attained their State Teaching Certificate and License; and

WHEREAS, in the 2004-2005 school year, Mitchell High School met or exceeded Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) standards as defined in the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB); and

WHEREAS, committed to excellence, Mitchell High School offers an innovative and effective array of academic programs to help students excel, including the NCLB Title I Program, Honors and AP classes, Saturday Academy, Reading is Fundamental, Extended Learning Program, Gateway Blitz, STEPS and GIRLS mentoring programs, Plan for Success Intervention, PLATO Learning, Renaissance Formative Assessment, Riverdeep Math, SmartBoard technology, College Bound program, Blue Ribbon Discipline Plan, and offers football, basketball, baseball, volleyball, track/cross-country, tennis, and golf as varsity sports; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell High School has also partnered with corporations and civic groups, including the Federal Aviation Administration, African-American Police Association, New Galilee Baptist Church, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Community Big Brothers/Sisters, FedEx Services Facilities Property Group, Media Consultants Systems Integration, Southaven Pontiac and Buick, Washington Chapel CME Church, Walker Memorial Christian Church, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Sam's Club, and Wal-Mart, to offer rewards and incentives for students on the academic, attendance, and citizenship honor rolls, as well as offering summer internships and employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Principal John Ware and the entire staff of Mitchell High School work tirelessly to fulfill the mission of their school: "It is the mission of Mitchell High School in total cooperation with parents and the community, to provide an educational environment that promotes and stimulates confident, self directed, lifelong learners who are well prepared for the competitive 21st century. Believing that all students at Mitchell will succeed, the faculty, staff,

and administration will provide challenging instructional opportunities and structured social interactions which foster the empowerment of valuable and productive citizens."; and

WHEREAS, in his many years in education and educational administration, John Ware has, by his commitment, dedication, personal involvement, and enthusiasm for the success of each one of his students, exemplified the very best in teaching excellence; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend John Ware for his outstanding record as Principal of Mitchell High School, and for his many years of dedicated and selfless service to the students under his care as an educator and administrator.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we thank Mr. John Ware for his commitment to the education of the youth of his community, his devotion to their best interests, and his many contributions to his community and to this State. We offer him our best wishes for every success in all his future endeavors and much happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.